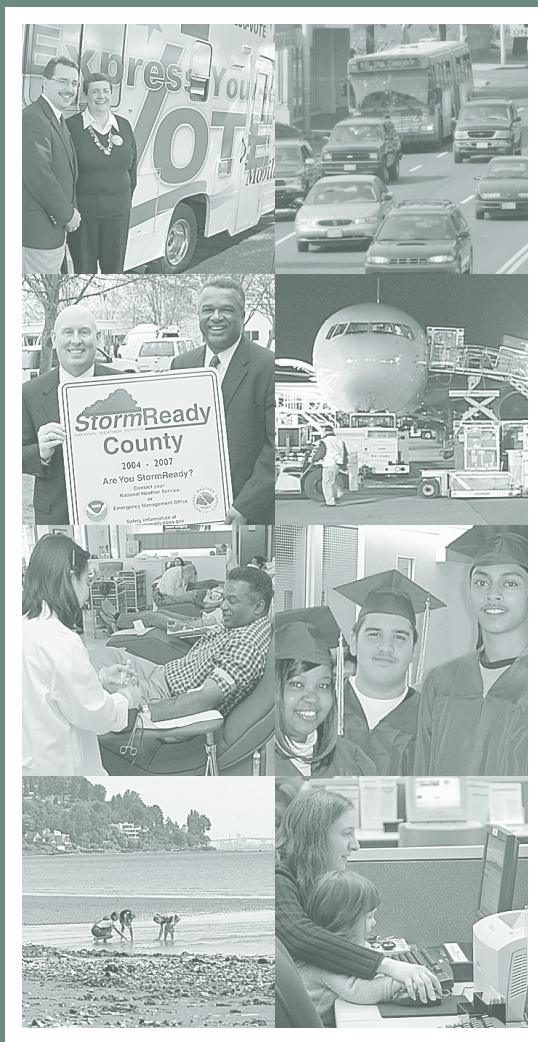




2005 STATE OF KING COUNTY REPORT

MEETING THE CHALLENGES
OF THE PAST DECADE



PREPARING FOR THE NEW
CHALLENGES OF A NEW CENTURY

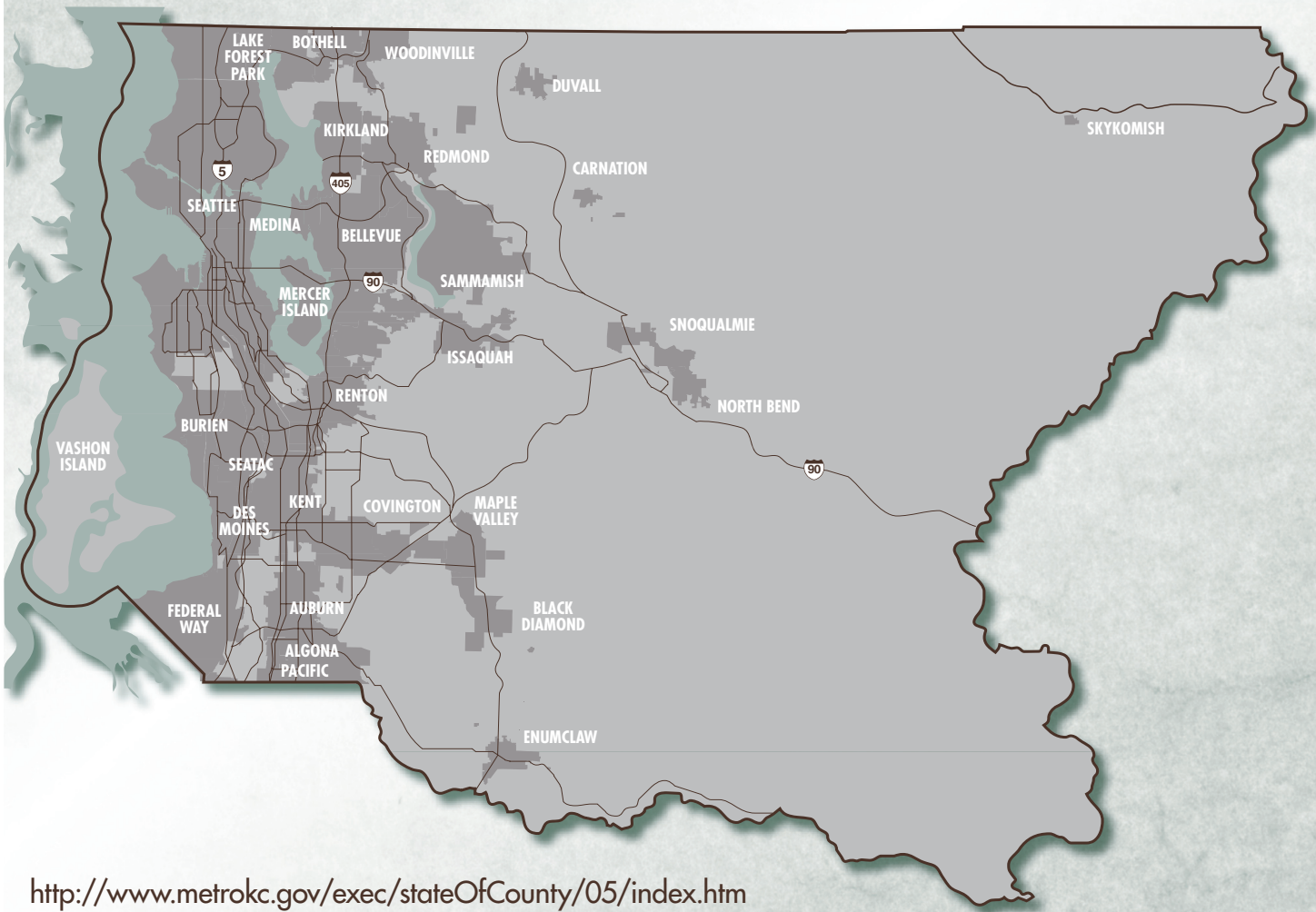
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King County is the largest county in terms of population, number of cities and employment in the State of Washington. It is Washington's second largest provider of government services including public transportation, elections, jail, law enforcement, courts, road construction, social services, public health and wastewater treatment.

Population: 1,788,300
Cities: 39
2005 budget: \$3.3 billion
Employees: 13,000

Sources: US Census data, 2004 King County Annual Growth report, King County 2005 Proposed Budget – Executive Summary



<http://www.metrokc.gov/exec/stateOfCounty/05/index.htm>

A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE

We are a large and diverse county that values its people, communities, businesses and environment. We all want to breathe clean air and to drink clean water. We want our families to be healthy and safe. We want good jobs and a strong economy that will protect and improve our cherished quality of life.

I am proud to present this list of accomplishments that are the result of these shared values. They are the product of a world-class county government comprised of an outstanding workforce of caring public servants.


While King County is delivering valuable services every day to its nearly 2 million citizens, this work includes important partnerships with our cities, community groups, nonprofit organizations, businesses, labor organizations and state and federal governments. We could not do this work alone, and we thank them for these partnerships.

As we reflect with pride on these accomplishments we also look to the future. We are a county transformed by changes in governance, population and the economy. As we identify the work to best serve our citizens in the future, we do it as a part of a nation transformed by the tragic events of 9/11.

These changes mean we face new challenges in transportation, water supply, climate change, technology, economic growth and protection of our people and health.

My promise to you is that we will act now to meet the new challenges of our new century with new solutions. Solutions that reflect our shared values, protect our people, wisely manage our resources and build our 21st century economy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Ron Sims", with a large, stylized initial "R" and "S".

Ron Sims